



Office of the City Manager

### **For Immediate Release**

**Primary Press Contact:**

Neal De Snoo, Energy Officer

Phone: 510-981-5434

Fax: 510-981-5450

**Secondary Press Contact:**

Stephanie Lopez, Communications Manager

Phone: 510-981-2481

Fax: 510-981-2499

## **NEW BERKELEY LAMP DESIGNED TO SAVE MONEY AND ENERGY**

### ***Partnership with Lawrence Berkeley National Labs produces revolutionary lamp for office and home.***

BERKELEY, Calif. (October 26, 2001) – A new design in lighting technology has the potential to reduce existing commercial lighting bills by more than 50%. The new "Berkeley Lamp," designed and tested by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Lighting Systems Research Group, can replace 375 watts of lighting with only 110 watts, and still produce an equivalent amount of high-quality light.

The lamps are a donation from the Lab's Environmental Technologies Division for use in this pilot program. The lamps' energy consumption will be monitored for one year while they are in use in the City's Public Works Engineering Office. The City hopes to expand this from a single office to some of its other facilities. "The office environment is more pleasant since we got the new lamps. The overhead lights that we had before were much harsher," according to Berkeley's Assistant Public Works Engineer Wendy Wong.

The Berkeley Lamp is the product of four years of research and development at the Lighting Systems Research Group by Dr. Michael Siminovitch and Erik Page and their staff. The lamp features two independently-controllable and dimmable compact fluorescent bulbs. One lamp's light is directed downward, illuminating a table or desk. The other directs the light toward the ceiling with a specially-curved interior shade to produce exceptionally even indirect lighting.

The downward light produces a dimmable light for reading or deskwork. The upward light provides the ideal non-glare lighting for computer environments. The interior shade separates the two lamps and allows three modes of lighting: downward only, upward only, or up and down together.

Substantial savings can be had by turning off overhead fluorescent lighting altogether and using this lamp. Building owners won't have to pay for lighting retrofits, and the energy bills are significantly reduced for the clients who are leasing the space. "Preliminary numbers exceed our anticipated energy savings," said Neal De Snoo, the City's Energy Officer. "We hoped for 30 to 50% savings, but these numbers show a 58% reduction in energy used for lighting."

This will be a pilot program for using Berkeley lamps in other City offices. These lamps are a great benefit to those who lease space, since they are cheaper to buy than retrofitting the overhead lighting, and the lamps can be moved around as workstations change.

Research work was funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and the California Energy Commission.

The Berkeley lamp is available to facilities managers on the internet at <http://www.lbl.gov:80/wonder/siminovitch-2.html>. Bulk purchasing by the City of Berkeley may soon make it available for single-unit purchases.

XXX